

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 03530 170805Z

43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /035 W  
----- 051052

R 170625Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO USINT BAGHDAD  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
SECSTATE WASHDC 1113

UNCLAS TEHRAN 3530

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, BTRA

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TRADE MISSION TO BAGHDAD

1. GOVERNOR WILLIAM WALLER OF MISSISSIPPI TRADE MISSION SAYS THAT DEPARTMENT DISCOURAGED MISSION AS A WHOLE, AND PARTICULARLY GOVERNOR, FROM GOING TO BAGHDAD GIVEN ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN IRAQ AND US. MISSION SAYS HOWEVER THAT WHILE IN KUWAIT MEMBERS WERE STRONGLY URGED BY IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT TO VISIT BAGHDAD. LATTER SAID THAT MISSION COULD EXPECT APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION BY GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ.

2. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SOME FOUR OR FIVE MEMBERS OF MISSISSIPPI STATE TRADE MISSION HAD, IN ANY EVENT, PLANNED TO VISIT BAGHDAD. UNLESS THERE ARE OVERRIDING REASONS WHY GOVERNOR, AS GOVERNOR, SHOULD NOT VISIT BAGHDAD, ENTIRE TWENTY-MAN MISSION PLANS ARRIVE BAGHDAD APRIL 23 FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE-DAY STAY.

3. USINT BAGHDAD MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON LIKELY ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ TOWARD MISSISSIPPI STATE TRADE MISSION. FY MISSISSIPPI MISSION IS SERIOUS MINDED GROUP STRONGLY INTERESTED IN DOING BUSINESS WITH MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES. IT HAS EVIDENCED COMPARATIVELY LITTLE INTEREST IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PROTOCOLARY ASPECTS OF TRIP.  
HELMS

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